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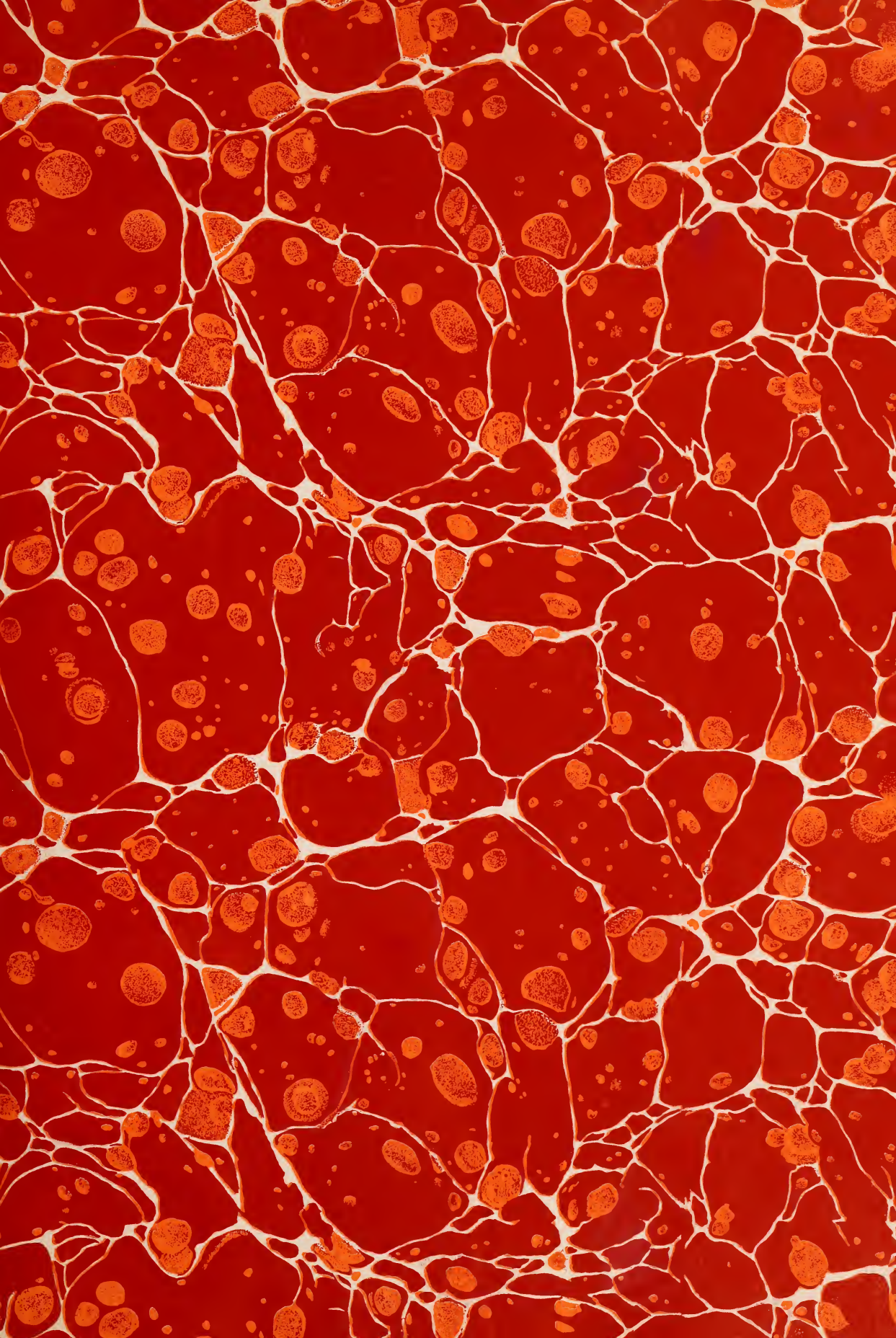


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SILK-CULTURE CIRCULAR, No. 5.

U. S. Department of Agriculture,

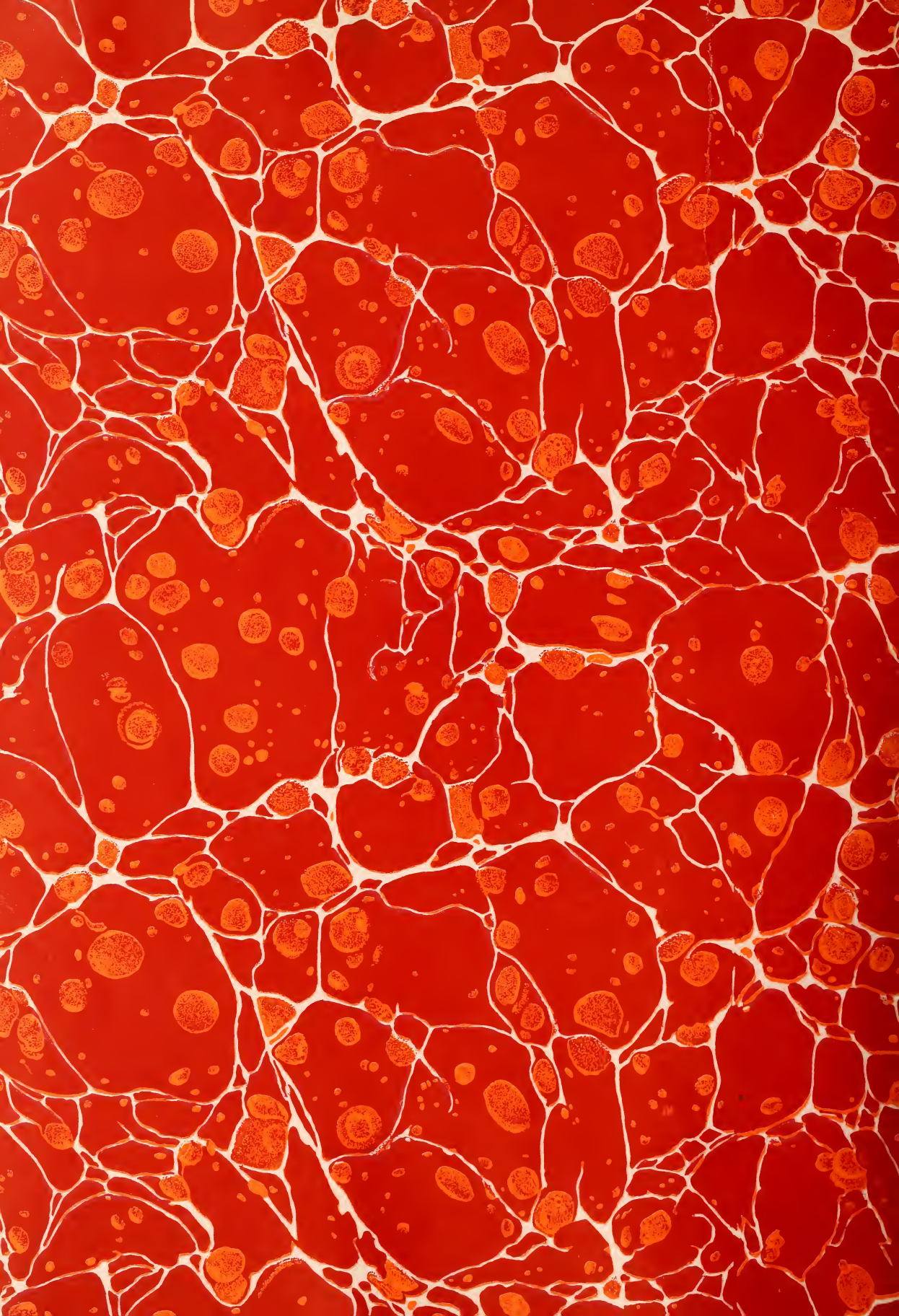
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Your application for silk worm eggs has been received and filed, bearing the number..... I have today caused to be sent to you ounce of eggs of the yellow annual French race. This is the only kind that will be distributed by the Department this season, and it will be advisable not to mix them with those obtained from any other source. You will confer a favor by submitting a report at the end of the season, as to your experience. Please note especially the state of the weather, the general health of your worms, the kind of food used and the product in fresh cocoons. If you keep daily notes you will find it much easier to do yourself justice in this report. Your results will have more significance if you feed only one kind of leaves, not mixing two varieties of mulberry, or mulberry and osage orange. Please mail your report in the enclosed envelope. A valuable part of this report will be some samples of the cocoons raised by you. Please fill the box in which the eggs are sent to you with cocoons that will show the average quality of your product. In the box you will find a printed slip which you should stick over the old address. The employment of this slip and the envelope mentioned above will obviate the use of postage stamps, as the enclosed matter is official. The following remarks on the keeping of the eggs until the leaves are large enough to ensure a sufficiency of food, should be carefully read. The hibernation of the eggs is quite as important a matter as the later raising:

The eggs should be placed in a room, or better a cellar, having a northern exposure. If possible the temperature should be kept below 40 degrees F. But the degree of temperature is not so important as its regularity. Thus after cold sudden heat should be avoided. Care should be taken to place the eggs in a position inaccessible to rats and mice and to watch them to see that they do not mold. Should mold be discovered upon them, it must be brushed off at once and the eggs removed to a dryer locality. When the plants relied upon for food are beginning to leaf, and all danger of late frosts is at an end, the eggs may be brought out into a warm living room, where the temperature being at from 65 to 70 degrees F., after three or four days exposure, they will begin to hatch. Directions for the care of the worms after the hatching will be found in the "Manual of Instructions" of Prof. C. V. Riley, published and distributed gratuitously by this Department.

Yours respectfully,

Geo. B. Leving,



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